GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5015
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2008
APPROVAL OF MINING PROJECT
Barman Shri Ranen;Mahato Shri Narahari

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sanctioned any projects of mining leases in West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh during each of the last three years;

(b) if so, the complete details alongwith the present status of each project, thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the details of parameters followed while sanctioning such projects alongwith the present mining policy in the States?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICAL & FERTILIZER AND MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE)

(a) &(b): State Governments are the owners of minerals and grant mining leases. Prior approval of Central Government is required only in case of grant of mining leases for minerals listed in First Schedule of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act). During last three years i.e. since 01/04/2005 till 23/04/2008, Central Government has conveyed prior approval for grant of mining lease in 59 proposals received from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh. No proposal for grant of mining lease was received from State Government of West Bengal and no prior approval for grant of mining lease in West Bengal has been conveyed by Central Government during this period. Details of mineral concession proposals, including mining leases, on which prior approval has been conveyed by Ministry of Mines are available on the website of Ministry of Mines i.e. http://www.mines.nic.in.

(c) : Ministry of Mines has been conveying prior approval for grant of mineral concessions, including mining leases, to the State Governments in terms of the provisions of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the Rules framed thereunder. The details of the mining policy in the States is not centrally maintained.